

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

EB-08 TRSE-00 DHA-05 /131 W

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R 092257Z SEP 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5250

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2938

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNGA, ECOSOC, PORG

SUBJ: PROBABLE RESUMED SESSION OF ECOSOC WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 26

TO CONSIDER NGO PARTICIPATION IN WORLD CONFERENCE

ON RACISM

1. SUMMARY. THE UNRESOLVED QUESTION OF CRITERIA FOR NGO PARTICIPATION IN WORLD CONFERENCE ON RACISM (ECOSOC RESOLUTION 2057, PARAGRAPH 4J) WILL PROBABLY COME UP DURING THE RESUMED SESSION OF ECOSOC SCHEDULED FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 26TH. THE SECRETARIAT HAS PREPARED SUGGESTED CRITERIA THAT WILL SOON BE COMMUNICATED TO AMB. SMID OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA (CHAIRMAN OF ECOSOC), AND HOPES THAT SMID WILL CONDUCT THE INFORMAL NEGOTIATIONS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO HAVE A "PRE-COOKED" SOLUTION BEFORE THE RESUMED SESSION. IF NO AGREEMENT IS POSSIBLE -- AND SINCE SECRETARIAT IS EAGER TO AVOID CONFRONTATION ON THIS ISSUE -- THEN THE SECRETARIAT HOPES THAT ISSUE ON UNGA AGENDA CAN BE DELAYED FOR INFORMAL NEGOTIATIONS TO RESOLVE. END SUMMARY.

2. AMCIT IN SECRETARIAT STAFF, ACTING PROBABLY UNDER INSTRUCTIONS, GAVE FOLLOWING SCENARIO AND HISTORY.

1) VAN BOVEN SENT LETTER EARLY SUMMER TO SMID REMINDING HIM THAT PARAGRAPH 4J OF ECOSOC 2057 SHOULD BE RESOLVED

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BEFORE THE END OF THE 32ND GA. 2) SMID RESPONDED

THANKING VAN BOVEN AND ASKING DIVISION TO FACILITATE

INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS THAT WOULD LEAD TO AN "ACCEPTABLE

FORMULA." 3) UNDER SECRETARY BUFFUM'S OFFICE IN NYC

HAS PREPARED DRAFT OF A LETTER TO RESPOND TO SMID,

BASED ON CONSULTATIONS WITH VAN BOVEN IN AUGUST IN

GENEVA WITH SECRETARIAT NYC STAFF OFFICIAL, THAT CONTAINS

SUGGESTED CRITERIA (LISTED BELOW) FOR PARTICIPATION OF NGOS IN WORLD CONFERENCE. BUFFUM IS SCHEDULED TO TALK BY PHONE SEPTEMBER 8TH WITH VAN BOVEN TO CLEAR DRAFT OF LETTER, WHICH WILL THEN BE SENT.

3. DIEGO CORDOBEZ, DIRECTOR OF ECOSOC STAFF, IS REPORTEDLY UNWILLING TO HELP IN INFORMAL NEGOTIATIONS, AND AGREES WITH DIVISION STAFF THAT THE FACILITATOR'S ROLE IS BEST LEFT WITH UNDER SECRETARY BUFFUM AND DIVISION DIRECTOR VAN BOVEN. HOWEVER, CORDOBEZ WILL PUT THE ITEM ON THE AGENDA OF THE RESUMED SESSION OF ECOSOC THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 26 IF INFORMAL NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN NOW AND THEN OFFER NEAR-CERTAINTY OF CONSENSUS FORMULA. IF NOT, THE ISSUE WILL BE LEFT FOR LATER, AND THE SECRETARIAT CONTACT EXPRESSED HOPE THAT IT COULD BE DELAYED TO WORK OUT FORMULA INFORMALLY RATHER THAN RUN RISK OF EXPLOITATION OF ISSUE BY THOSE WHO HAVE THEIR OWN AGENDAS.

4. OUTLINE OF PROPOSED LETTER TO SMID FOLLOWS:

1) DIVISION STAFF WILL BE HAPPY TO ASSIST YOU IN ARRANGING INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS AMONG THE SPONSORS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES OF RESOLUTION 2057.
2) DIVISION RECOMMENDS THREE CRITERIA FOR CONSIDERATION IN THESE CONSULTATIONS: (A) ALL NGOS IN CONSULTATIVE CATEGORY NUMBER 1 WOULD BE ELIGIBLE. (B) ALL NGOS
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WHICH HAVE SUBMITTED INFORMATION ON PROGRAM FOR WORLD CONFERENCE WOULD BE ELIGIBLE. (C) ALL NGOS WHICH ARE MEMBER OF EITHER THE GENEVA OR NYC NGO COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS WOULD BE ELIGIBLE. 3) IF THE COUNCIL APPROVES THESE CRITERIA, THEN THE ELIGIBLE NGOS WOULD BE THOSE NAMED IN THE ATTACHED LIST. (LIST NOT WORKED UP YET, BUT CAN BE DONE VERY RAPIDLY. THE ONLY LIST OF ITEM (B) IS IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS DIVISION IN GENEVA. LIST INCLUDES MANY JEWISH NGOS, CONTACT POINTED OUT, AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE LIST IS LIKELY TO EVOKE PROTESTS FROM SOME ARAB NATIONS.) 4) IF SMID THINKS IT APPROPRIATE TO RAISE THIS MATTER WITH A MEETING OF THE REGIONAL CHAIRMEN, THEN THE DIVISION WOULD ASSIST BY FURNISHING A STAFF PERSON.

5. CONTACT POINTED OUT THAT MANY NGOS ARE LOBBYING FOR THE WIDEST POSSIBLE CRITERIA, WHILE SOME NATIONS (MENTIONED WERE IRAQ, TUNISIA, SYRIA AND ARGENTINA), ARE STRENUOUSLY LOBBYING AGAINST ONE GROUP OR ANOTHER OF NGOS AND WOULD SEIZE ON THIS ISSUE TO CREATE A CONFRONTATION.

6. COMMENT. A DECISION BY THE RESUMED ECOSOC TO
RECOMMEND TO THE 32ND GA THAT JEWISH NGOS BE EXCLUDED
FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE WORLD CONFERENCE WOULD, OF COURSE,
RENDER IMPOSSIBLE ANY FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF RESUMED
US PARTICIPATION IN THE DECADE. WE WILL BE CONSULTING
IN THE NEXT DAYS WHICH CONCERNED DELEGATIONS ON POSSIBLE
STRATEGIES FOR AVOIDING A CONFRONTATION.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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Executive Order: GS
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Subject: PROBABLE RESUMED SESSION OF ECOSOC WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 26 TO CONSIDER NGO PARTICIPATION IN WORLD CONFERENCE ON RACISM
TAGS: PORG, SHUM, UNGA, ECOSOC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/e5f90d49-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
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